

VOLUNTEER IOWA

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Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service 4th Quarter Report

Volunteer Promotion & Training

Iowa Conference on Volunteer & Nonprofit Management

Approximately 400 nonprofit leaders attended this year's conference. For the first time ever, the conference was expanded to include nonprofit management through a partnership with The Larned A. Waterman Iowa Non-profit Resource Center. Attendees had the opportunity to choose from 48 workshops on nonprofit management, volunteer management, and professional development. 57 percent of all attendees were new to the conference. Participants also had the opportunity to do a service project, visit with exhibitors, and purchase resource material from the onsite library. Over 97 percent of post conference evaluations indicated they would recommend attending to colleagues.



Drop Out Summit

Iowa's Promise, in partnership with State Farm Insurance, hosted a statewide drop out prevention summit on May 7, 2008. "Destination Graduation" brought sixteen communities to Des Moines for a day long session, exploring ways to deal with the drop out epidemic facing minority students in Iowa high schools. At the end of the event, these community teams were given the responsibility of taking tools provided during the event back to their district and organizing a work group to develop a plan addressing this important issue. Throughout the fall, members of the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development provided TA to these community work groups in developing their plans. Of the initial 16 communities, 9 districts developed plans to address their drop out problems and were eligible to receive start-up funds of \$4,000, through the partnership with State Farm Insurance, to help implement their plan. The awards presentation took place at the Iowa High School Summit held on December 8.

CARE!

Iowa Mentoring Partnership

Help them write their story

Mentoring Partnership

83 programs are currently certified with more than 7,000 active mentor-mentee matches. This is a 30% increase in the number of certified programs and matches in Iowa. In November, 26 programs participated in a two-day statewide

mentoring training held in Ames, which focused on effective practices and better mentoring training models. The Iowa Mentoring Provider board also elected new leadership and met with ICVS staff in December to determine 2009 Mentoring month activities, spring training curriculum, and statewide mentoring promotion and recruitment activities.



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps*State

Thirteen AmeriCorps projects served all counties in Iowa, engaging members in providing service in improving the environment, serving victims of domestic violence, strengthening families living in poverty, protecting children and communities, providing after-school and summer activities, mentoring, and involving college students in service. Programs measured their accomplishments and achieved 82% of their targets. Noteworthy among Iowa's AmeriCorps programs' accomplishments – 387 members served 285,629 hours valued at more than \$5.57 million (using the 2007 Independent Sector value for a volunteer hour). In addition, these members recruited 13,425 community volunteers who completed 848 community projects and served an additional 127,155 hours. The overall value of the hours served through the efforts of Iowa's AmeriCorps members and the community volunteers they recruited and managed is more than \$8 million.

AmeriCorps State* Results

Volunteers recruited by members included:

- 674 disadvantaged children
- 4,219 college students
- 4,559 baby boomers

Disaster Information:

- 139 AmeriCorps*State members served in disaster response (as opposed to the recovery phase)
- 161 members were certified in disaster response
- 32 local disasters were responded to
- 1,855 disaster-affected individuals served

Services provided by members included:

- 82 independent living services provided
- 5,458 disadvantaged youth served
- 143 children of prisoners served
- 10,612 individuals mentored

AmeriCorps Training

Program Development and Training

Members attended the annual conference in October to help them gain leadership and citizenship skills. Program directors received training on supervision, program management, disability inclusion, and recruiting. In September, new commissioners received orientation and training to help them become excellent stewards for AmeriCorps and the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service. A number of potential new grantees participated in technical assistance calls to help them prepare to apply for an AmeriCorps*State grant for 2009-2010.

Disability Inclusion

The ICVS is working with state programs and host sites on disability issues with the goal of increasing the number of people with disabilities serving, and helping create successful service terms for people with disabilities. Training took place in March and August with representatives from disability organizations and members of the disabled community. In November, the ICVS partnered with Wartburg College and local disability organizations to present a disability mini-conference that attracted more than 100 attendees. Workshops were presented on national service, workforce development and empowerment for people with disabilities. The ICVS also attended numerous recruiting events targeting people with disabilities, including the National Service Recruiting Fair at Kirkwood College, the Youth Leadership Forum, and the Iowa School Guidance Counselors Conference.